

**Meeting Notes: Ground Water Monitoring Council
Spring 2017 10am, April 11, 2017
Van Dorn Facility**

<http://deg.ne.gov/NDEQProg.nsf/OnWeb/GWSWMC> Location of notes, presentation.

Updates from Participants (Note, these notes are pretty much really brief summaries and may not capture everything discussed correctly):

Dave Miesbach, NDEQ: 2016 Ground Water Monitoring Report, UIC/ME position at NDEQ

Colleen Steele, UNL: The Ag Chemical Clearinghouse (<http://data.dnr.nebraska.gov/Clearinghouse/Clearinghouse.aspx>) has over 480,000 analytical results representing over 27,400 wells. Approximately 120,400 of these results are nitrate results. Data for 2016 have been received from 14 NRDs, including Papio-Missouri River data submitted by the USGS. One NRD will not be sending data for 2016 (Middle Republican) and eight have not yet submitted. Processing has been completed for Department of Agriculture ELISA (Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay) data from the Department of Agriculture for 2008, 2014 and 2015. We will begin processing 2016 data soon.

Dana Divine, UNL: 2016 Water Level Report finished. There was a request to have data removed which showed a localized decline. UNL did not take this data out.

Amanda Saunders Flynn USGS: Did a lot of work on PMRNRD new Ground Water Management Plan. They added ~15 new wells into PMRNRD network, for a total of ~40 wells. About 20 per year will be monitored. Samples from new wells getting analyzed for age and baseline analyses. New wells in Dakota (north) and limestone (south), part of ENWRA. Hiring a student, apply in next few days.

Ginny McGuire, USGS: Recently released a report on water-level changes in the Republican River Basin (<https://pubs.er.usgs.gov/publication/sim3373>). This report was done in cooperation with the Middle Republican NRD. 2015 NAQWA data from the Principal Aquifer Study (sampled only public supply wells), Vertical Flow-Path Study (southeastern Nebraska), and Agricultural Landuse Study (northeastern Nebraska) will be released soon. Discussion of putting recent NAWQA data in Clearinghouse, but would restrict access to data from public supply wells. Also discussed sampling results of source water for the City of Lincoln wellfield; this data currently is not in the Clearinghouse. The sampled wells for the City of Lincoln are monitoring wells and not public supply wells.

General discussion of **Ag Chemical Clearinghouse (Ryan Chapman)**, and the desire to upgrade/update it. NDEQ will put workgroup together, with hopes of going over

wishes, requirements, web connectivity, GIS, statistics, new things in Clearinghouse – like other additional analytes, connection to well registration, etc. Discussion of Jesse Korus Geo Cloud project too, should it be connected?

Brock Hanisch, Lincoln-Lancaster County Health: New to group, took Jim Newman's position. Hope to continue to have LLCoHealth data in Clearinghouse.

Katie Cameron, ENWRA at LPSNRD: Working on GeoCloud. Web-ex in August. Taking input now on the wishes to be in GeoCloud. Test hole data, Recharge Data (April 18 meeting), Transducer data, looking at GeoCloud with what 4 different types of users would need (scientific/technical, regulatory, well drillers, general public).

Laura Johnson, NDEQ: Bazile GW Mgt Plan accepted by EPA in Oct 2016, opening it and other similar GW plans to CWA 319 grants. Lots of work happening in Bazile area, AEM, vadose sampling, GW Model. Getting ready for 2018 Integrated Report, relating that to Watershed and Basin Management Plans, connecting ground and surface water quality via good data and planning efforts.

Sam Radford, NDEQ: Continuing WHP work, newest effort in trying to get a Risk Communication workshop going, first in Bazile area, next in four other locations across state. Using DWSRF money to develop Drinking Water Management and Protection Plans, get them approved by EPA, then use them for CWA 319 funding, like the Bazile plan. Statewide Outreach on gw quality – trying to coordinate numerous agencies and organizations to get a coordinated effort (Corn Growers, Cattlemen, Farm Bureau, NARD, UNL, DNR, NDEQ, HHS, etc).

Craig Romary, NDoA: Pesticide program and NRDs' immuno-assay testing data going into Clearinghouse associated database. Dept Ag efforts on Pesticides of Interest, Pesticides of Concern, State Management Plan (for pesticides). Look for reports on NDoA website.

Ryan Chapman, NDEQ: Some info on Dan Snow (UNL) Vadose Zone project – with standardized protocol, Quality Assurance Plans, Project Plans, and database of results.

Circle back to Dave Miesbach, some info on **NioCorp Elk Creek Niobium Mine**. Still have permit application for NPDES permit to send in, working on pipeline for effluent. Water from mining effort will be ~15,000 to 18,000 TDS, at a huge >10,000 gal per minute.

Marty Link, NDEQ: Introduced Brackish Water Report recently finished by USGS, Ginny was an author. Marty will be part of a Congressional Staff Briefing May 4, Washington DC.

Karen Griffin, Olsson Assoc.: Gave update PowerPoint (on website) on PMRNRD GW Management Plan. Mentioned cooperative work between Olsson, Amanda (USGS), and Paul (PMRNRD).